

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 017**

**Call to Order:** By Senator Weeding, on April 14, 1993, at 12:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Weeding, Chair (D)  
Sen. Christiaens (D)  
Sen. Swysgood (R)  
Rep. Keller, Chair (R)  
Rep. Wyatt (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** Rep. Vogel (R)

**Staff Present:** Connie Erickson, Legislative Council  
David Martin, Committee Secretary

**Discussion:**

Sen. Weeding said he had checked and there were no deadlines that prevented a separate resolution concerning this proposal, and he assured the Committee he would support this effort, if necessary.

Sen. Swysgood said his concerns had been taken care of in the language presently in HB 2. He said the only problem would be the assurance that the language would remain in HB 2, which no one could assure. He said the language was not necessary in SJR 17.

Rep. Keller asked if the amendment would endanger SJR 17.

Sen. Weeding said SJR 17 was a Committee Bill relating to the ISTEPA, Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. He said after a conversation with Department of Transportation, DOT, the new act was taken care of, but there were still many references in the codes to the old act. He said it was necessary to make sure that the references throughout Title 16 conformed to ISTEPA.

Rep. Keller asked Sen. Swysgood if he objected to the concept of a study, or to the amount of money necessary to complete a quality study.

Sen. Swysgood said he was concerned with the original study, and that the department was required to come up with a cost plan and other related items. He said there was existing evidence as to the cost and criteria for the study. He said the study was beyond the ability for the department to carry out. He said if monies are available through ISTEPA a study could be conducted. He referred to the corridor, which goes all the way to Denver as a good example. He said his concern was the reference to the cost and that the state would be required to construct this. He said Sen. Christiaens had offered other language in HB 2, on the floor, which he supported. He said he did not have devious intentions, and his main concern was that the language was unnecessary in SJR 17 which is why he rejected the bill.

Rep. Keller asked if there was coordinating language or something similar that could be stripped out of HB 2.

Sen. Christiaens said the title of the resolution said that DOT would research methods which would allow the state of Montana to maximize revenue from the lease or rental of highway information signs. He said it might be possible to request examination of the concept that the construction of a highway of interstate quality be constructed from Billings to Great Falls. He referred to the last line on page 2 of SJR 17, which is also in HB 2, and said if one of the bills would fail then the language would still appear in the other.

Sen. Swysgood said SJR 17 did not carry much "weight" since it was not going into the statutes. He said HB 2 would be more "secure" since it was statute and SJR 17 was not. He said coordinating language with HB 2 would be alright to avoid a duplicate effort, so that two departments would not be doing different things.

Sen. Christiaens said HB 2 and SJR 17 would work well together, so that if one failed the language would still be in other bill.

Sen. Swysgood said page 4, line 8, should have the same wording as HB 2.

The Committee discussed refinements for the exact amendment language.

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 17

Rep. Keller had proxy vote for Rep. Vogel.

#### Motion/Vote:

Rep. Keller moved to AMEND SJR 17 (Exhibit #1). The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Motion/Vote:**

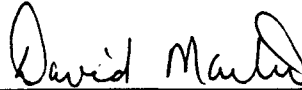
Rep. Keller moved the Committee accept the Conference Committee Report. The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

  
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SEN. CECIL WEEDING Chair

  
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DAVID MARTIN, Secretary

CW/dm

# ROLL CALL

(FREE) CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

ON HOUSE / SENATE BILL # SJR-17

DATE 4.14.93

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Sen. Weeding, Chair	✓		
Sen. Christiaens	✓		
Sen. SWYSGROD	✓		
Rep. Keller	✓		
Rep. WYATT	✓		
Rep VOGEL		✓	

Conference Committee  
on Senate Joint Resolution No. 17  
Report No. 1, April 14, 1993

Page 1 of 1

Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

We, your Conference Committee on Senate Joint Resolution No. 17, met and considered:

The house amendments to Senate Joint Resolution No. 17

We recommend that Senate Joint Resolution No. 17 (reference copy - salmon) be amended as follows:

1. Title, lines 20 and 21.

Strike: "REQUESTING" on line 20 through "QUALITY" on line 21

Insert: "URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REVIEW THE HIGHWAY LEADING MOST DIRECTLY"

2. Page 4, line 22 through page 5, line 8.

Following: "TO" on line 22


Strike: remainder of line 22 through "REPORT" on page 5, line 8

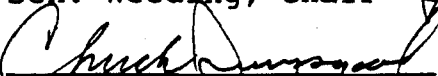
Insert: "review the highway leading most directly between Billings and Great Falls. This corridor is important to the economic well-being of the state of Montana and instrumental in economic development of international trade. The department shall prepare a written report encompassing the condition of the highway and the improvements made and planned to be made. The report must include cost estimates, a tentative schedule, the types of improvements, and a means of financing the construction or reconstruction. This report must be made"

And that this Conference Committee report be adopted.


For the Senate:

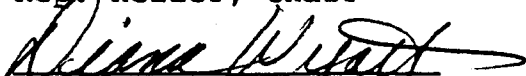
For the House:

  
Sen. Weeding, Chair



  
Sen. Swysgood

  
Sen. Christians

  
Rep. Keller, Chair

  
Rep. Wyatt

  
Rep. Vogel

 Amd. Coord.  
 Sec. of Senate

ADOPT

REJECT

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Amendments to Senate Joint Resolution No. 17  
Reference Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Weeding and Representative Keller  
For the Conference Committee on SJR 17

Prepared by Connie Erickson  
April 14, 1993

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Exhibit # 1

SJR # 17

4-14-93

Conference  
Committee